

Jeremy Ilouljian's Platform for SA President

Student Organizations

Student organizations are one of the strongest aspects of the GW community. The most memorable times of most GW student's experiences are with student organizations. The SA has not done too much to impact the average student, but they can make it easier for student organizations to do the great work that they do and be an effective advocate on their behalf. This can be best done in the following ways:

1. Expanding the Office of the Vice President of Financial Affairs

I want to broaden the office of the Vice-President of Financial Affairs to include their own staff support system. With a greater amount of support for the VP of Financial Affairs, the burden on one person can be reduced and contracts can be processed a lot faster. This allows the organizations to be more efficient. This staff could be comprised of students looking to get involved as to limiting costs.

2. Creating an online SA Funds Request Form

The contracts and papers that need to be filled out to use funding should be submitted online instead of in person. By submitting them online it makes the process simpler for the VP of Financial Affairs, the Center for Student Engagement (CSE), and for the students. Everything could be digital so it never would get lost. By being digital it would be easier to keep records and the VP of Financial Affairs and the CSE would be able to communicate better on what has been completed and what has not. The link to these forms could be accessed on the CSE website or the SA website and a preview of how to use them can be part of the treasurer training process.

3. Create a Technology Grant

To reduce the cost of events for student organizations and for Greek life there should be a technology/room grant available for student organizations. This grant would work the same way as the Dining Board Grant. A student organization can apply for co sponsorship online if they needed the funds to use a non-Marvin Center room for a larger event such as President coming to speak or space needed in the Elliott or Business School. Funding for this can come from a variety of sources including but not limited to the CSE office, the SA, and Programming Board.

4. Weekly Meetings with Student Organizations

Each week, I will hold meetings open to members of student organization executive boards. At the meetings, we will discuss what issues student organizations are facing and how the Student Association can be a resource and advocate on their behalf. These meetings will allow me to understand and act upon the issues important to student organizations.

Jobs, Career Services, Research Opportunities

The most important question for students right now is, what I am doing after college? Will I get a job? Will I go to graduate school? Considering the magnitude of these questions GW currently offers very little services in comparison to what it could do.

1. Strengthening the Career Center

The University should continue to strengthen and empower the Career Center to make it more prominent on campus and a strong resource that students can rely on. There should be town hall

meetings in which students say what they are looking for in a Career center and what opportunities that want to have. The students know what they and if they tell the GW administration, the career center can then cater to their needs.

2. Company Recruiters

Currently only a few times a year does GW bring in various companies looking to hire which. It should increase the number of companies brought in that are looking to hire as well as bring in different jobs from the public sector to give the greatest opportunity students to start a career. GW should partner more with the individual departments in each of the schools to bring careers for GW students.

3. Media Campaign for Research Opportunities within GW

Research opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students are absolutely vital to the health of any university and to the pursuit of scholastic excellence at that university. Expanding these opportunities is one objective that I wish to accomplish during my tenure as SA President. GW already provides a strong selection of research opportunities for undergraduates and graduates with the university. We should publicize these opportunities better by using social media as well as the relevant academic departments and student organizations. If more students knew of the opportunities, more students would take the opportunity.

4. Provide information for Non-GW Research Opportunities

Many GW students have the ability to conduct research themselves. They only lack the financial resources to do so. At the Career center we should offer research proposal courses to walk students through the process of the necessary requirements to write a research proposal as well as effective lobby the associated institution to receive it.

Graduate Students

1. Fair Graduate Finance Reform

For the graduate schools, the biggest thing that the SA can do is step back and let them handle themselves. Currently graduate students submit \$1.50 per credit for their student fees. The current finance committee has given far less back to graduate student organizations than what graduate students have put into the pot. Graduate student organizations should receive 100% of the money that graduate students contribute to the SA.

2. Reduced Fees for Graduate Student Organizations

For many graduate student organizations, they are based within an individual school or section of GW. Those organizations should not have to pay for the various items needed at the event at that particular school. This is different from regular student organizations because almost all student organizations are based in the Marvin Center and already have that space at their disposal, but for the graduate students who are based in a specific school they should be able to book space that fits their specific needs.

3. Alcohol at Graduate Events

Due to the age difference of graduate students to undergraduate students there should be not as strict rules on alcohol being served at events. The forms could be submitted online to make the process move faster and to keep digital records. Also we should change the amount of RAM trained students from 1:20 to 1:40 to make planning the events easier while still keeping students safe.

Student Association and Organizational Reform

The biggest problem SA and the other Marvin Center offices face (Center for Student Engagement, Greek Office, Marvin Center Governing Board, Sudexo, Programming Board, GW Residence Hall Association, Colonial Inauguration) is miscommunication and lack of messaging with students.

1. Effective Communication between entities

The Marvin Center offices need to have stronger cooperation with one another. Currently each office knows what its own job description is. But most of the staff or students in the office are unaware of the duties of the other related offices. There should be monthly trainings run by Tim Miller as well as the SA President focusing on what each office handles and how each office can better cooperate with one another. These training sessions would break into different groups discuss the issues they encounter with students and how they best can work together to tackle the problems. This promotion of discussion would let the Marvin Center Offices become much more efficient and provide a large benefit to all GW students. Communication would also be enhanced by the new Marvin Center reforms that although many of these offices to share the current CSE office.

2. SA Town Hall Meetings

Every other week there should be open meetings for the senators of the respective schools or classes where they can hear what the students want to talk about. These meetings would act as expanded office hours. This way Senators can be more accountable for they promise as well as hear the most pressing concerns of the students. They would work these related institutions (i.e. the ESIA Senator would work with the Elliott School for their weekly town hall). These would also be beneficial for continued cooperation with the Gelman library and Marvin Center Reforms.

3. Continue with the Social Media Campaign

Another project that I want to push in the SA is to continue to get more students involved through effective messaging and an open committee process. To tackle the problem of getting the message out I propose a continuation of the social media campaign that John Richardson has started this year. This will bring in more people to partake within the SA. Liveblogging the Senate meetings, constant twitter feeds, and facebook updates will push the knowledge of the SA to the students and give them a voice in the process.

Greek Life

1. Respect the Greek Life Self-Governance Policy

Greek life is given the unique opportunity to self-govern themselves from what are considered minor infractions from SJS. When Greek Life was faced with allegations last year, the University rushed to enforce the rules themselves and did not give Greek Life the opportunity to enforce their own rules. Working with the IFC and Panhel to adjudicate violations of the rules should rectify this.